

The Baptist Record

JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

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Retirees total 2,805 years of missionary service

By Erich Bridges

RICHMOND, Va. (BP) — The second-hardest thing Mary Louise Clark ever did was leave the United States for the mission field.

The hardest thing she ever did was leave Zimbabwe three decades later to come home.

"I have only one regret — that I don't have another 30 years to give," Clark said during an Oct. 10 service at Hatcher Memorial Church in Richmond, Va., honoring her and 97 other retiring Southern Baptist missionaries. "But I have left behind those who will be much more effective than I have ever been."

One she left behind, Richard, was a young boy when she first met him. He became like a son to her.

"I remember buying him his first pair of shoes," recalled the missionary from Gainesville, Ga. "It was as if I had given him a million dollars."

Today, she added, Richard is one of the most effective Baptist pastors, evangelists, and church starters in Zimbabwe.

Many heads nodded among the retiring missionaries who sat behind her as Clark spoke of her sadness and joy at bidding farewell to her spiritual children in Zimbabwe. Each could tell similar stories, and several did.

Foreign Mission Board President Jerry Rankin paid tribute to the 98 retirees, one of the largest such groups in memory, who served a combined total of 2,805 years on mission fields in about 40 countries.

As the apostle Paul said to the Ephesian brethren at the end of his

third missionary journey, they too could say they have served in "humility... and with many tears and trials," Rankin told the missionaries. "In humility you endured because you depended on God in your inadequacy."

The tears came for the lost, followed by tears of joy when the lost found Christ — and finally by tears of parting, as when Paul told his beloved Ephesians "you shall see my face no more."

"That was difficult, wasn't it?" Rankin asked the missionaries about the day they returned to the United States.

But celebration overtook the grief of saying goodbye as the missionaries told of the Christians they left behind:

— Roberta Hampton of Piedmont, Okla., spent most of her 29 years in Brazil promoting the work of Brazilian home missionaries. She remembered the day in 1974 when she and some Baptist co-workers stopped for gas on the Trans-Amazon Highway and saw a couple clearing land. Hampton and a seminary student went across the road, gave them an evangelistic tract, and invited them to come to services. They came, accepted Christ as Savior, and became charter members of Ebenezer Baptist Church, 85 miles from their home.

The couple regularly walked miles to a "preaching point" closer to their home, putting their small children in baskets on each side of a donkey. The father could hardly read and write, but they shared daily family worship services. The children's favorite pastime was

playing church.

Nine years later Hampton returned to the area and saw the family again at church.

"Their 10-year-old daughter was being baptized, and three other children already were Christians,"

she said. "It was hard taking pictures that day because tears filled my eyes as I recalled how they had been so faithful throughout the years, through hardships and temptations they had had. But they also were tears of joy and thanksgiving

to God because he had chosen me to be one of the instruments in winning this family and others to Christ."

— Sam Waldron of Macon, Ga., who served 28 years in the Philippines, remembered a tribal witch doctor who walked into town one day and heard singing coming from the little Baptist church on the hill. Intrigued, he came and stood outside the window to listen, and was invited inside. The witch doctor "had never heard the gospel or seen a Bible, but he accepted Christ at that moment," Waldron said.

"It feels like somebody took a mountain off me," the witch doctor told his new Christian brothers and sisters. He went home to his tribal area, led his wife to faith in Christ, and became a pastor. So did three of his children.

— The love Frances Greenway showed for a child changed the attitude of a whole village in Zimbabwe. Greenway, of Ladonia, Texas, who served 35 years in Ghana and Zimbabwe, took protein-deficient children into her home for a year at a time to teach parents how a proper diet helps form healthy children.

"One lad came at four years old," Greenway said. "Tirivanhu was from a faraway village that knew neither nutrition nor a Savior. Already exposed to measles, which is almost always fatal with severe nutrition deficiency, he soon died."

"Through this tragic event, a pagan village that had consistently refused to let Christians even set foot inside became open to the gospel."

Bridges writes for FMB.



WAY TO GO, GRANDPA! — Southern Baptist missionary Sam Waldron gets a hug from one of his biggest supporters — his granddaughter Heather — after a service honoring 98 retiring missionaries. Waldron and his wife Mary served for 28 years in the Philippines. They and their retiring Foreign Mission Board colleagues spent a combined total of 2,805 years spreading the gospel on mission fields worldwide. (BP photo by Sandy King)

Oldest missionary honored

Family and friends of Southern Baptists' oldest emeritus missionary gathered recently in Memphis to celebrate the life and ministry of William H. Berry, who died of cancer July 30, just three days after he turned 100 years of age. Son Edward Berry of Benton, Ark. — also a retired missionary — said his father would have wanted them to go forward with the centennial birthday celebration that had been delayed in recent months due to his illness. "It was his wish that we go on with the party," Edward Berry pointed out. William Berry and his late wife Olga were appointed missionaries to Brazil in 1922. They served in Curitiba, Rio de Janeiro, and Belo Horizonte until their retirement in 1963. William Berry was a graduate of the school of journalism at the University of Missouri at Columbia and started the communications network that later became the Brazilian Baptist Radio and Television Board. He also wrote more than 30 books and hundreds of essays and poems.

Single parents in need

The fundamental need in one of society's fastest-growing groups is improved self-esteem, according to two Baptist professors who spoke at a home missions conference at Gloria (N.M.) Conference Center. Jeanine and Welby Bozeman reported the responsibilities of being a single parent after divorce, death, or out-of-wedlock birth can often lead to self-doubt and a poor self-image. Jeanine is associate professor of social work at New Orleans Seminary; Welby is associate professor of religion at Louisiana College in Pineville. Jeanine Bozeman gave advice on how Christians can get involved with single parents in need:

- Help them deal with grief and financial hardships.
- Be extra sensitive toward them during holidays.
- Include them in church activities, especially a parent group that will help them struggle together.
- Serve as a Christian adult role model for the children of single parents.

Looking Back...

10 years ago

"Like a Watered Garden," a locally-produced pageant of music, readings, drama, and slides involving 150 people, celebrates the 65-year history of Pontotoc Association from its 1919 founding through today.

20 years ago

Beach Boulevard Church property adjoining Gulfshore Assembly in Pass Christian is donated to the assembly by Gulf Coast Association, giving the state Baptist-owned facility important frontage to Highway 90 for the first time.

50 years ago

The special Christmas edition of *The Baptist Record* will not be printed in 1944, due to across-the-board newsprint cutbacks ordered last week by the federal government as the war effort tightens supplies.

EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK

Guy Henderson

A changed charter

Gratitude is surely in order for all those who worked diligently to bring Mississippi College back under convention control. This includes the MC trustees, the Education Commission, the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, and especially Bill Causey, the executive director. The lights have burned late at the Baptist Building and excessive working hours have been the norm.

For a number of reasons the MC trustees felt it best to "reclaim" the college in order to protect it. This has happened in several other states in the last few years as Baptist colleges named self-perpetuating boards and distanced themselves from state conventions. We may well question the method but their motive was to assist and enhance the school.

Fully half of the trustees favoring this were part of families who have given millions of dollars to Mississippi College. Their actions have been matched with generous

giving.

The executive director, Bill Causey, championed the cause of negotiation. Our convention is a family, and trust and respect are necessary. Talks, numerous meetings, conference calls — all were necessary to iron out the wrinkles.

The Convention Board was then called to an emergency meeting. Pastors, lay-leaders, lawyers, and others met in a closed session. The record of denominations re-claiming colleges was dismal. Still there was talk, giving in to the desire of others, and compromise where it was worth it. After several hours and by a 60-10 vote of the board, the plan was accepted.

The Mississippi Baptist Convention gets the school back. Trustees in the future will be elected by the Convention from a list approved by the trustees and the Nominating Committee of the Convention.

It is a check and balance sys-

tem where each side would approve the selection prior to the Convention voting on them. No group could "take over" the college. This was a brilliant move enabling both sides to enjoy a win-win situation. Howell Todd, MC president, expressed it well: "We are grateful we are back in sync with Mississippi Baptists."

Not everyone will be pleased, but it is far better than what we had. It is easy to say they should have done this or that. Bear in mind, a college which had been separated from the convention was returned and a new charter registered with the Secretary of State. This was the main thing.

Sure, there are problems yet to be settled and much to be altered; however, healthy negotiations in an atmosphere of trust can level a lot of mountains and fill up various valleys. Now, under the democratic process of the Convention and with concerned trustees, let higher education continue in Baptist colleges.

Global missions:

A Cooperative Program priority

By Sam Pittman

The Foreign Mission Board (FMB) is deeply committed to evangelism that results in churches. Global evangelization has become a constant theme as missionaries and staff have sharpened their efforts toward reaching the objective Southern Baptists have given them: bringing all people in other lands to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ and involving them in Christian growth and service.

The challenge of Bold Mission Thrust can be met only as Southern Baptists commit themselves and their total resources to the redemptive purpose of God through Jesus Christ. Although Southern Baptists have achieved some of the goals of Bold Mission Thrust, progress must be accelerated if the ideals of global evangelization are to be achieved by A.D. 2000.

At the beginning of 1994, 3,954 missionary personnel were serving overseas. The vast majority of these are career missionaries. Others serve through auxiliary categories as associates, journeymen, and other International Service Corps personnel. Missionaries work in 176 countries, with missionaries residing in 127 of these countries.

Southern Baptists cooperate through their FMB with national entities representing 35,188

churches. The majority of these churches are self-supporting. In addition, there are 25,327 missions and preaching points.

Missionaries and overseas Baptists work together as partners in evangelism and church growth. In an average week in 1993, more than 5,000 believers were baptized into overseas churches.

Working alongside missionaries were more than 10,000 volunteers involved in Partnership Evangelism crusades and state convention partnerships with overseas Baptists. Volunteers also assisted in hunger, disaster, construction, and health-related projects.

Evangelism through education and the development of Baptist leaders have been two key emphases in this program. The extent of this program can be seen in the operation and witness of 107 academies, colleges, national and international seminaries, theological institutes, and Bible schools in over 60 countries. Many national lay leaders were enrolled in Theological Education by Extension (TEE), and others attended short Bible conferences or seminars.

In the battle for the minds and hearts of people, the printed page becomes a powerful instrument to win people to Christ. Translation,

printing, and distribution of the Scriptures and Christian literature continue to be a key part of the foreign mission program. Missionaries working in 23 major publication centers around the world help publish millions of books, periodicals, curriculum pieces, and tracts.

The electronic media make an ever greater impact for the cause of Christ among overseas people. Baptist radio and television programs share the gospel with an estimated 170 million listeners and viewers. As a result of these programs many thousands of listeners responded with an interest in the gospel or to request enrollment in correspondence courses.

Medical assistance is an expression of Christian love and a means of witness. Today the FMB assists in the maintenance of 36 medical centers in 29 countries. Missionary physicians, dentists, nurses, and other medical workers engaged in medical and health care ministries in these centers and in numerous other clinics and dispensaries.

Refugees from war and natural disasters present a haunting picture in our world. Missionaries and their Christian colleagues minister with compassionate concern to them and other unfortunate persons — the hungry,



Observe Cooperative Program Month

October
1 • 9 • 9 • 4

ONE MANDATE—
Evangelizing ALL the LOST.

God has given us two hands—one to receive with and the other to give with. We are not cisterns made for hoarding; we are channels made for sharing.
—Billy Graham in Stewardship Sermons and Stories

Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
—Matthew 28:19

THE FRAGMENTS

There's something better

Halloween has been around for a long time. Ghosts, goblins, and unnamed creatures add the excitement of another world to the whole event. Trick-or-treaters, dressed in fearful costumes, stand by the ringing doorbell with outstretched hands.

Halloween takes on the hue of Druid priest and the festival of possible satanic forces. Oct. 31 is supposedly the day those forces get nearest the earth. Witchcraft and "black sabbath" events using black cats, skulls, and broom-handles were the beat in Central Europe. Add to this the decree of

Catholic Pope Gregory and "All Saints" day and you have "Hallow-even" or today's Halloween.

Hopefully, the trick-or-treaters are finding more important things today. This type of pumpkin-spiced begging promotes a selfishness that makes all of us uncomfortable.

Also, some good alternatives are available including dramas, parties, special films, and other diversions calculated to satisfy the "do something" desire that sifts through the air. Blessed is the church that can find more important things for its youth. — GH

thirsty, lonely, naked, and imprisoned — in foreign countries.

Southern Baptists through the Cooperative Program (CP) provide about 38% of the Foreign Mission Board budget. Greater CP giving is an absolute necessity if the goals of Bold Mission Thrust are to be achieved.

The FMB is grateful to the individuals, churches, associations, state conventions, and all Southern Baptist entities which have combined their gifts and their prayers to accomplish this sustained witness to the world.

Still, millions of dollars are urgently needed on overseas fields for missionary support, additional outreach programs, land, buildings, equipment, and supplies.

The Cooperative Program, as the lifeline of missions, continues to offer Southern Baptists their best channel for meeting these needs on a long-term basis. Global evangelization cannot be achieved without a revival of Cooperative Program emphasis and giving by the churches.

Pittman is executive director for public affairs, FMB.

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Mississippi Baptist Convention 159th Session

Tuesday, November 1, 1994
First Session

8:45	Prelude	Organist/Pianist, FBC, Jackson
8:50	Sounding of the Gavel	Rex Yancey
8:55	Choral Praise	Sanctuary Choir, FBC, Pascagoula
9:05	Congregational Praise	Stan Loyd
	Hear The Word of The Lord	J.C. Prather <i>Romans 12:1-2</i> Ed Deuschle
9:15	Prayer	
	Organization of the Convention	Rex Yancey
	Recognition and Seating of Messengers	Jimmy Porter
	Report of Order of Business Committee	Rex Yancey
	Tellers and Credentials Committees	Frank Pollard
	Welcome	Henry T. Blackaby
9:30	Bible Treasure	Frank Gunn
9:55	Report of Committee on Committees	
10:00	Presentation of Resolutions	
10:15	Congregational Praise	Stan Loyd
10:20	My Fresh Encounter	Rob Jackson
10:25	Election of President	
10:50	Choral Praise	Sanctuary Choir, FBC, Pascagoula
10:55	President's Address	Rex Yancey
11:25	Second ballot for President (if needed)	
11:30	Benediction	William Sims

Second Session

1:40	Prelude	Organist/Pianist, FBC, Jackson
1:45	Sounding of the Gavel	Kara Blackard
	Congregational Praise	Gary Miller
	Hear the Word of The Lord	Gayle Alexander <i>Philippians 2:5-11</i> Billy W. Baker
	Prayer	Mike and Christine Goff
1:55	My Fresh Encounter	
2:00	Business Session	
	Presentation of 1995 Budget	Robert Upchurch
	Election of Convention Officers	
	Miscellaneous Business	
2:30	Bible Treasure	Henry T. Blackaby
2:55	Congregational Praise	Gary Miller
3:00	Report of the Christian Action Commission	Paul Jones
3:15	Convention Board Report	P.J. Scott
3:30	Business Session	
	Election of Convention Officers	
	Report of Constitution and Bylaws Committee	
	Miscellaneous Business	
4:00	Congregational Praise	Gary Miller
4:05	Vocal Praise	"Heart Strings"
4:10	Message	Henry T. Blackaby
4:45	Benediction	John Sapp

Third Session

6:30	Prelude	Mississippi Singing Churchmen
6:35	Sounding of the Gavel	Rex Yancey
6:40	Choral Praise	Mississippi Singing Churchmen
7:00	Congregational Praise	Graham Smith
	Hear the Word of the Lord	Kiely Young <i>Matthew 20:25-28</i> Bob O'Neal Kelly Kee
	Prayer	
7:10	My Fresh Encounter	
7:15	Final Presentation of Resolutions	
7:20	Recognition of Visitors	Rex Yancey
	Recognition of New Workers	Bill Causey
7:35	Memorial Service	Louis Smith
7:40	Partnership Missions	Bill Hardy
7:55	Choral Praise	Mississippi Singing Churchmen
8:00	Mississippi Baptist Convention Emphasis	Bill Causey
8:40	Benediction	Lee Gardner

Wednesday, November 2, 1994
Fourth Session

8:45	Prelude	Organist/Pianist, FBC, Jackson
8:50	Sounding of the Gavel	Rex Yancey
8:55	Choral Praise	Sanctuary Choir, FBC, Vicksburg
9:05	Congregational Praise	James C. Hess
	Hear the Word of the Lord	Chuck Pourciau <i>II Corinthians 9:6-7; I Corinthians 15:58</i> Eddie Jones
	Prayer	Ronny Robinson
9:15	Baptist Children's Village Report	

(Continued on page 4)

THE SECOND FRONT PAGE

The Baptist Record

JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

Thursday, October 20, 1994

Published Since 1877

MC trustees, MBCB reach compromise; "divorce is off"

By Tim Nicholas

Three weeks of negotiations have resolved a situation that had removed Mississippi College from the hands of the Mississippi Baptist Convention.

An agreement was reached last week that instituted a system of checks and balances designed to preserve the interests of the convention and the college trustees.

On Sept. 22, MC trustees changed the school's charter to prevent the Mississippi Baptist Convention from electing more than a fourth of the trustees. The change would have had the trustees electing three-fourths of their own board. This was done, said Trustee Chairman Harry Vickery, "to protect the college from... denominational politics." Vickery also noted the board needed to be enlarged and to become more diverse.

The furor that erupted among convention leadership included threats of court action and withholding of the \$2 million in Cooperative Program monies the college gets yearly. A called Executive Committee meeting the next day began efforts to reconcile the situation.

As a result of the efforts, this is apparently the first time any Baptist institution has returned to denominational hands after a charter change effecting a secession. Other

Baptist schools separating themselves from their state conventions include Baylor University in Waco, Texas; Furman University in Greenville, S.C.; and, recently, Samford University in Birmingham, Ala.

The resolution, approved by the executive committee, the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, the Education Commission, and the MC trustees, requires agreement from both the trustee group and the convention's Committee on Nominations before a potential trustee's name goes before the Mississippi Baptist Convention for voting.

The trustee board will still be enlarged to 24 from the present 15. Up to a third will be in church-related vocations, and MC alumni living outside the state can be nominated.

Basically, the plan returns the system to what has been called "a gentleman's agreement" as has existed in the past where institutional executives submitted requests for trustees, with those requests honored by the Committee on Nominations.

The new plan was announced to MC faculty last Friday by Vickery. The previous evening the convention board, executive committee, and Education Commission had approved it.

Although the written documents

appear to allow MC to elect trustees following any impasse at the nominating committee level, Causey said that the MC trustees agreed to allow the election of trustees to be a mutual responsibility. The agreement is that any openings following a convention will have joint approval between the trustees and the executive committee.

MC President Howell Todd, speaking to the MC faculty, called it "a refreshing new day, a new era of cooperation." Later, Todd offered his "utmost appreciation for the untiring efforts of Bill Causey, the Baptist leadership, and Harry Vickery."

Others pointed to Causey as the linchpin for success of the negotiations. Jim Futral, executive committee chairman, wrote in his church newsletter that "... apart from the untiring efforts of Dr. Bill Causey, our executive director, and the ongoing openness of the Mississippi College trustees, no resolution would have ever been found."

Causey said, "The starting point of negotiations is that you're dealing with good people who have the larger view of the work of the Lord." Checks and balances, said Causey, "was the key to the negotiations."

Said one participant, "The divorce is off."

Baptist leaders laud MC agreement

Bill Causey, MBCB executive director: I am both thankful and relieved that, by applying the biblical principles of sound discussion, reason, and seeking God's guidance through prayer, we have worked through this very serious issue to conclude with a plan that is acceptable to the Mississippi College board of trustees and the leadership of the Mississippi Baptist Convention. A special debt is owed to the Education Commission, the executive committee, and the full state convention board in guiding us through difficult negotiations. This is truly a testimony to the untiring work of many to seek common ground, and I want to express my appreciation for the prayerful consideration shown in resolving this matter.

I look forward to a new era of cooperation with the Mississippi College board of trustees that will sustain and nurture an old and revered denominational college to ensure it retains its solid spiritual base from which to deliver superb academic programs. I am aware that there are some who might fear that Mississippi College will drift from its spiritual base, but neither I nor the leadership of the Mississippi Baptist Convention believe that will happen. In fact, it is believed that this commitment is magnified in the new agreement.

The board of trustees remains unequivocally committed to the school's roots as a Baptist institu-

tion and will work to guarantee that future generations continue to enjoy the same spiritual environment. Likewise, the convention will remain equally committed to maintaining its historical support of Mississippi College and continuing its mission of supporting, providing, and believing in quality Christian education.

P.J. Scott, MBCB president: Christian people sat down and found the mind of Christ and did what they found to be his will. The people have prayed—on both sides. They have prayed and have wanted to do right. I think we're stronger. I think we've worked through difficult situations and have come out together.

Bobby Douglas, Education Commission chairman: I am pleased the issue has been resolved. It will make for stronger ties for Mississippi College and Mississippi Baptists. Many thanks to the Education Commission for their willingness to work long hours in assisting this outcome.

Rex Yancey, MBC president: We got the best we could get and keep the school. If we had gone to court it would have cost hundreds of thousands of dollars and would have alienated all the lay business. (See LEADERS on page 5)



Forbus honored for 40 years

First Church, Greenville, honored Kenneth (right) and Catherine (center) Forbus on Sept. 4 for 40 years of service to the church. Pastor Jay Richardson (left) congratulated the Forbuses during the celebration, which included proclamations and keys to the city from Greenville's mayor, choral presentations and love gift from the church, and a certificate of appreciation from the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board's Church Music Department. The day was designated "Kenneth and Catherine Forbus Day" in Greenville. Forbus served as minister of music for 29 years and presently is administrator and minister to senior adults at First Church.

Convention Program — from page 3

9:25	Bible Treasure	Henry T. Blackaby
9:50	Business Session	
	Adoption of 1995 Budget	Robert Upchurch
	Report of Committee on Nominations	Bobby Douglas
	Resolutions Committee Report (part 1)	
	Miscellaneous Business	
10:40	Congregational Praise	James C. Hess
10:45	My Fresh Encounter	Eleanor Long
10:50	Choral Praise	Sanctuary Choir, FBC, Vicksburg
10:55	Convention Sermon	Gordon H. Sansing
11:30	Benediction	Harold Gartman

Fifth Session

1:20	Prelude	Blue Mountain College Chorale
1:30	Sounding of the Gavel	Richard Johnson
	Congregational Praise	Gay Gandy
	Hear the Word of the Lord	Allen Harris
	Prayer	Acts 1:7-8
		Wayne Vandiver
1:40	Bible Treasure	Henry T. Blackaby
2:05	Business Session	
	Report of Time, Place, Preacher Committee	
	Resolutions Committee Report (part 2)	
	Miscellaneous Business	
2:25	BSU Summer Missions Testimony	Matt Jacobsen
2:30	Evangelism Report	Garland McKee
2:40	Congregational Praise	Gay Gandy
2:45	My Fresh Encounter	Bill Hudson
2:50	Choral Praise	Blue Mountain College Chorale
2:55	Spotlight on Christian Education	Bobby Douglas
3:10	Introduction of College Presidents	Rex Yancey
	Blue Mountain College Report	Harold Fisher
3:20	Choral Praise	Blue Mountain College Chorale
3:25	Message	Denton Lotz
4:00	Benediction	Vic Bowman

Colonial Heights slates Hill, Miller for Bible conference

Colonial Heights Church in Jackson will host a Fall Bible Conference on Oct. 23-26 at the church's facilities at 5708 Old Canton Road.

Evangelist David Miller from Heber Springs, Ark., will lead the conference. Music evangelist Dick Hill from Champion Forest Church in Houston, Texas, will lead the music for the conference.

The conference will begin with the morning worship service at 10:30 on Sunday, Oct. 23, and will continue with 6:30 p.m. services on Sunday through Wednesday, Oct. 26.

Lunch will be served at 11:30 a.m., Monday through Wednesday. Cost is \$4 per person.

For more information, contact the church at (601) 956-5000.

Clarke committee recommends property sale to film company

By Tim Nicholas

The special committee charged with recommending disposal of the Clarke College property in Newton County has proposed its sale to an institute which plans to make family-oriented films and teach filmmaking.

The recommendation goes to the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board's executive committee and the full board for approval prior to the Mississippi Baptist Convention's annual meeting Nov. 1-2 at First Church, Jackson. Messengers to the annual meeting will also be asked to approve the sale.

The Deep South Family Film Institute proposes to buy the Clarke property for \$1 million. This is conditioned on the buyer securing the purchase price by Oct. 21, to be held in trust until closing.

Clarke College, a Baptist junior college, closed in 1992 after being operated by Mississippi College trustees for a decade. Trustees cited declining enrollment, declining finances, and loss of accreditation as reasons for the closure.

When the convention board accepted the Clarke property back from MC, the document said future use "should not be inconsistent with or hinder the missions, goals, and concerns of the Mississippi Baptist Convention." Committee members said then they did not believe the statement precluded secular organizations from being considered.

Restrictive covenants will be included in the sale deeds. These include promises by the purchaser

to produce no "R" rated films and that alcoholic beverages will not be produced or sold on the property.

The institute's proposal notes that "entertainment must be designed to provide the level of interest and excitement people want, without relying on violence, profanity, and sexual content."

The Deep South Family Film

The Deep South Family Film Institute proposes to buy the Clarke property for \$1 million. Its first production will be "Miracle at Beaver Lake."

Institute, headed by Jim Shepherd of Ridgeland, will include a film production component. Their first production is slated to be "Miracle at Beaver Lake."

Other components will be a school for producers, writers, and technical people in high definition television, and spring and fall film festivals.

Shepherd said 60-70 families will be moving to Newton to staff the facilities and the institute will hold up to 145 students.

The Mississippi Baptist Convention Board has spent over \$140,000 on upkeep of the property, not including legal fees. That money will be reimbursed from proceeds.

Mississippi College is slated to receive \$242,000 for earlier Clarke-related expenses, and the remainder is to "be equally divided among existing Baptist colleges through the capital allocation budget item," according to the original agreement concerning the sale of the Clarke property.

Clarke Committee Chairman Larry Otis of Tupelo noted: "We are pleased to culminate two years of committee work that has carried us through five or six separate proposals for the use of the property. The committee feels that this proposal which will renovate the facility will be a good use of the property and be a benefit to the City of Newton and Mississippi."

Other members of the Clarke Special Committee include Levon Moore, Kosciusko; R.J. Reynolds, Newton; Mrs. Bobbie Foster, Prentiss; Mrs. Jerry Kemp, Columbia; Ernest Sadler, Pascagoula; Glenn Shows, Jackson; Lamar McDonald, Meridian; Bill May, Newton; Joe Jack Hurst, Jackson; George Taylor Jr., Forest; and James Richardson, Madison. Ex officio members are Bill Causey, Jackson; P.J. Scott, Olive Branch; Frank Harmon, Newton; John Brock, Picayune; and Jim Futral, Jackson.

Nicholas is director, MBCB Office of Communication.

Lebanon Association celebrates 100 years of cooperative mission efforts

One hundred years ago, page 1 of *The Baptist Record* for Nov. 1, 1894, carried a special notice (see sidebar). Twelve churches responded by sending delegates to meet at the Baptist Church building in Hattiesburg, Nov. 27, 1894. The churches were from as far away as Meridian in one direction and Nicholson, near the Louisiana line, in the other.

O.D. Bowen, who served as pastor of Ellisville, Eastabuchie, and Sandersville churches at that time, was elected as moderator and served as such for the next 11 years.

Most associations in Mississippi were named for rivers and streams at that time. Bowen appointed a committee to come up with a name for the new body, and "Lebanon Baptist Association" was adopted, named for the biblical land of Lebanon.

Baptist Record Editor J.A. Hackett brought the annual sermon at the association's meeting in 1894. A.V. Rowe, corresponding secretary for the Mississippi Baptist Convention, gave the mission report.

One hundred years have passed

with 103 churches having been a part of the Lebanon Association. Several associations have been carved from Lebanon, yet she still stands strong with 37 churches as members and one petitioning for membership at this time.

Many leaders have been a part

of the success of the association. For 32 years, Joel Dillard Ray served as executive director of missions for Lebanon. He and his wife Betty Jo served together to see much growth in the association and the locating of the office on 38th Avenue, Hattiesburg. In 1993, Ray retired and has been succeeded by George D. Berger as executive director.

Today, Lebanon Association stands on the brink of the next 100 years with a mission to bring the message of Christ to the community around it.

Lebanon Association will hold its annual meeting on Oct. 25. The sessions will be held at First Church, Hattiesburg, with business being conducted in the 9 a.m. session along with the annual sermon by Jim Futral of Jackson.

The 7 p.m. session will feature a historical drama, special music, and roll call of all churches that have been members of the association over the years.

Russell Bush will preside as moderator. All churches that have been or are present members of the Lebanon Association are urged to attend.

Special Notice

The convention of delegates from the various churches along the N.O. & N.E.R.R. will meet at Hattiesburg on Tuesday at 10 a.m., after the first Sunday in November, for the purpose of organizing a new association. Our church and people here will find entertainment for all our brethren and sisters who may visit us on that occasion, and the only condition we make is that they send us their names AT ONCE. Those who plan to visit friends or relatives will please give us their names and the names of parties whom they expect to visit. Our committee will not be responsible for those who do not.

L.E. Hall, Hattiesburg

FMB votes missionary raise, hears plea for unified giving

RICHMOND, Va. (BP) — Foreign Mission Board trustees voted Oct. 12 for the first across-the-board pay raise for missionaries since 1991 and heard the denomination's president challenge Southern Baptists not to splinter their giving to the Cooperative Program.

Trustees also unanimously elected David T. Button of Canton, N.Y., as vice president for public relations and development and applauded the naming of Louis A. Moore of Nashville as associate vice president for communications and director of news and information.

In other action during their Oct. 10-12 meeting, trustees:

- appointed 39 people to missionary service.

- projected long-range administrative changes for Europe.

- authorized a study of the board's policy prohibiting hiring of more than one person from the same family on the FMB staff.

- revised its policy for handling missionary terminations or resignations related to lifestyle and performance issues.

The missionary pay raise came as trustees approved a 1995 budget of \$186.2 million, including a previously unallocated \$1.5 million in receipts from the Southern Baptist Convention's Cooperative Program unified budget.

The pay raise, to take effect Jan. 1, will amount to \$60 a month for each missionary couple, \$36 a month for single missionaries, \$32.40 for shorter-term International Service Corps couples, and \$19.80 for ISC singles.

The \$1.5 million windfall to the board may offset what it would have received through the Cooper-

ative Baptist Fellowship. CBF-channeled gifts to the board totaled more than \$1.6 million in 1993.

In a separate action, trustees granted FMB staff a one-time payment of \$600 in December. Staff salaries have fallen behind cost-of-living increases over the past decade. The payment will come largely from funds in the FMB staff payroll account that have not

"I urge (these splinter groups) to be careful about leaving the main body."

— Jim Henry

been spent, mainly because of retirements and downsizing. Trustees appointed a committee to study staff compensation.

Southern Baptist Convention President Jim Henry of Orlando, Fla., addressed trustees in a meeting abuzz with discussion over the financial future of missions. He issued a stirring appeal for Southern Baptists not to tamper with the Cooperative Program.

Henry urged those in Southern Baptist institutions and state conventions who would fragment and "overreact to what's gone on" in the SBC theological and political controversy to "stay the course" and help focus Southern Baptist resources on the task of reaching the world for Jesus Christ.

Addressing both SBC moderates and conservatives, he also urged Southern Baptists to "think prayerfully and carefully" before

they splinter away from cooperative efforts to support missions, forming instead their own factions.

"These splinter groups (on) both sides of the mainstream... I hope will realize we are the strongest by staying together," Henry said. "I urge (them) to be careful about leaving the main body. Our people in leadership need to stand up and show what leadership is all about... and say, 'This is right. We give our money through the Cooperative Program.'"

Henry later told Baptist Press he was referring directly to fragmenting efforts taking place among moderates and conservatives in such states as Virginia, North Carolina, and Texas, and through the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship.

In other board action, trustees voted to delay the process of forming separate administrations for Eastern and Western Europe. About 18 months ago they directed staff members to begin studying how and when such action would take place. But the process lost steam as Rankin came to the board several months later and reorganized overseas operations.

The trustees also appointed 39 missionaries Oct. 11, bringing the total missionary force to 4,045. About a third of the group earlier served overseas through the mission board in such roles as journeyman, International Service Corps volunteer, Baptist Student Union summer missionary, and short-term volunteer. Two are former Foreign Mission Board career missionaries. Two others also worked five years at the board's home office.

Thursday, October 20, 1994

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 5



Ministers' Wives meet

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — The Ministers' Wives officers met Oct. 10-12 in Birmingham to plan the group's annual June luncheon which occurs during the meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention. Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union Executive Director Dellanna O'Brien (standing, left) hosted the group. Gathering for the planning session were (seated, left to right) Emma Morgan of Griffin, Ga., and Alice Marshall of Louisville, Ky., (standing) O'Brien, Anita Snell of Jacksonville, Fla., and Jane Allison of Hattiesburg. Morgan, whose husband Bruce is pastor of First Church, Griffin, is vice president of the group. Marshall, whose husband Bill is Kentucky Baptist Convention executive director, serves as president. Snell, whose husband Jack is pastor of Hendricks Avenue in Jacksonville, is recording secretary. Allison, whose husband Dick is pastor of University Church, Hattiesburg, is corresponding secretary. (WMU photo by Dan Bryan)

Rates for personal, seminarian medical plans will not change

DALLAS (BP) — Rates for the first six months of 1995 will not increase for participants in three Annuity Board medical plans that cover church ministers, church staffs, and seminary students.

Rates will not change in the Comprehensive Medical, Major Medical, and Catastrophic Medical plans, according to Annuity Board officials. Life and long-term disability rates also will not change for 1995. A decision has not yet been made about 1995 rates for participants in the Prudential HMO.

Although there is no across-the-board increase for the first half of 1995, rates may change for participants who move to ZIP Code areas

with higher rates or who have birthdays that put them into higher age brackets. Participants who add a first or second dependent to their coverage will also see an increase.

There has been no rate increase in the Personal or Seminarian Comprehensive Medical Plan since July 1, 1992.

Joel Mathis, an Annuity Board senior vice president and head of the Insurance Division, said there will be major changes for 1995 in the Annuity Board's prescription drug program which will benefit participants in the Comprehensive Medical Plan. Specific information about the new prescription drug benefits will be sent to all participants soon.

HMB's added Cooperative Program dollars make up for CBF shortfall

ATLANTA (BP) — Additional Cooperative Program receipts will more than compensate for a shortfall in budgeted receipts from the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, the Home Mission Board executive committee was told Oct. 11.

The HMB budget for 1994 included \$500,000 from the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, said Ernest Kelley, executive vice pres-

ident for planning and finance. The board received \$194,369 from the CBF from January through June, when messengers to the Southern Baptist Convention voted to direct SBC agencies to stop accepting CBF funds.

The SBC Cooperative Program received more money than was budgeted for 1993-94, resulting in an additional CP allocation of

\$331,884 for the Home Mission Board, Kelley said.

HMB President Larry Lewis said efforts by some state conventions to redesign Cooperative Program giving structures "makes me a little nervous." He urged committee members to fight to keep traditional methods of Cooperative Program support intact.

The committee also elected two people to staff positions, appointed 14 missionaries, and was told 27 chaplains were endorsed, bringing the total number of chaplains to a record 2,364.

Ron Gaynor, chairman of the chaplaincy committee, said 14 Southern Baptist chaplains are serving in Guantanamo Bay, seven are in Haiti, and "an undetermined number are on their way to the Middle East."

Elected to HMB staff positions were Dennis Mitchell and Mitch Crowe. Mitchell will be associate director of the black church extension division. Crowe will serve as director of financial reporting.

Family ties

Three members of the same family were involved in the August revival at Mt. Moriah Church (Calhoun). Max Price (center) is Mt. Moriah pastor. Price's son John (right) served as guest preacher, while son Philip (left) served as guest musician. John is pastor of Mt. Pisgah Church (Rankin), while Philip attends New Orleans Seminary.



LEADERS

From page 3

nessmen who have poured money into the school and which could have alienated others. We could have lost the case, too. Even if we would have won, we would have lost. If we withheld the \$2 million (in Cooperative Program funding) Mississippi College becomes an elite Baptist school that's going to drift left. They always do."

Jim Futral, Executive Committee chairman: I am so pleased. My deep sadness has

turned to gladness. Mississippi College and the Mississippi Baptist Convention have had a solid and mutually productive relationship too long to part ways. Mississippi Baptists need Mississippi College and the college needs Mississippi Baptists. This agreement may not be perfect, but it is a working document of mutual cooperation. It stands as a living testimony to Christian reconciliation. We are all indebted to Bill Causey for his unceasing efforts and to the Mississippi College trustees for their willingness to reconsider their decision."

Monday, October 31, 1994

MBCB committees, various locations, 9 a.m.

MBCB board meeting, Baptist Building Sky Room, 10 a.m.

Mississippi Baptist Religious Education Association, 11:30 a.m., Colonial Heights Church, Jackson. Mississippi College President Howell Todd, speaker. Contact David Webb at (601) 798-6470.

Senior's Conference, sessions begin at 1 p.m. and 2 p.m., First Church, Jackson. Speakers: Billy Walker, Phil Walker, Jim Phillips, Dean Register, Jerry Sanders, Jess Moody.

Mississippi College Christian Service Conference, First Church, Jackson, 1 p.m. Speakers: Rhonda Kelley, New Orleans Seminary, and Lynda Street, MC administrative assistant. Dept. of Christian Studies and Philosophy. Call for reservations due by Oct. 24. Contact MBCB Church Administration/Pastoral Ministries Dept. at (601) 968-3800 or toll-free (800) 748-1651.

Day Missions Conference, 3 p.m., First Church, Jackson. Missions banquet, 5 p.m., \$7.50 per person (reservations required by Oct. 25). Chuck Kelley, New Orleans Seminary, speaker. Preschool provision provided upon prior notification. Contact MBCB Brotherhood Dept. at (601) 968-3800 or toll-free (800) 748-1651.

Tuesday, November 1, 1994

Florida Baptist Theological College alumni, 7 a.m., Shoney's Restaurant I-55 at High Street, Jackson. Dutch treat. David Knight, seminary vice-president, speaker. Contact Arlis Grice at (601) 798-6193.

Mississippi College Christian Service alumni, 7:30 a.m., Fellowship Hall East-Section A at First Church, Jackson. Contact MC alumni office at (601) 925-3208.

Annuitants breakfast, 7:30 a.m., Fellowship Hall East at First Church, Jackson.

First convention session, 8:45 a.m., First Church, Jackson, sanctuary.

Mississippi College School of Nursing Health Fair, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Baptist Building lobby. Screenings and information on heart disease, cancer, stress, diabetes, nutrition, and body fat analysis.

New Orleans Seminary alumni, noon, Baptist Building Sky Room. Billy Simmons, seminary professor, speaker. \$10 per person (deadline for tickets is Oct. 26). Contact Bill Smith at (601) 566-1700.

Southwestern Seminary alumni, noon, Calvary Church, Jackson. Pat Clenden-

*"Renew a
Right Spirit"*



**Mississippi Baptist Convention
159th Session**

• • •

**November 1-2, 1994
First Baptist Church, Jackson**

ning, seminary professor, speaker. \$8 per person (tickets must be purchased by Oct. 26). Contact Archie Herrin at (601) 736-2254.

Southern Baptist Center for Biblical Studies alumni, 1 p.m., Western Sizzlin I-55 North. Contact John Stewart at (601) 234-9482.

Second convention session, 1:40 p.m., First Church, Jackson, sanctuary.

Blue Mountain College ministerial alumni, 5 p.m., Broadmoor Church, Jackson. Tickets available at college's convention display booth or from Bruce Caplanian.

Chaplain, 5 p.m., Baptist Building Sky Room. Huey Perry, SBC Home Mission Board, speaker. Contact Richard Drogan by Oct. 28 at (601) 968-3800 or toll-free (800) 748-1651.

Third convention session, 6:30 p.m., First Church, Jackson, sanctuary.

William Carey College alumni, immediately following third convention session, Baptist Building Chapel. Contact Donna Wheeler at (601) 582-6167.

Conference of Mississippi Baptist Evangelists, immediately following third convention session, First Church, Jackson, Chapel Parlor.

Wednesday, November 2, 1994

Bivocational Ministers Fellowship, 7 a.m., Admiral Benbow Inn on State Street, Jackson. Complimentary breakfast. No preregistration necessary. Contact Matt Buckles at (601) 968-3800 or toll-free (800) 748-1651.

Clarke College alumni, 7 a.m., Fellowship Hall East at First Church, Jackson. Contact Juanita West at (601) 683-6838.

Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, 7 a.m., Ramada Inn Coliseum, Jackson. Dutch treat. Helen Jean Parks, wife of CBF missions coordinator Keith Parks, speaker.

Southern Seminary alumni, 7:30 a.m., Baptist Building Chapel. David Dockery, seminary vice-president, speaker. \$3.50 continental breakfast. Contact Ray Lloyd at (601) 323-5633.

New Work Fellowship, 7:30 a.m., Baptist Building Sky Room. Sign up at convention display booth by noon Nov. 1. Contact MBCB Missions Extension and Associational Administration Dept. at (601) 968-3800, or toll-free (800) 748-1651.

Fourth convention session, 8:45 a.m., First Church, Jackson, sanctuary.

Fifth convention session, 1:20 p.m., First Church, Jackson, sanctuary.

Registration

Registration for the 1994 Convention will be on the second floor above the State Street entrance of First Church, Jackson. Registration will open at noon on Monday, Oct. 31, and at 8 a.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 1, and Wednesday, Nov. 2. (Registration will close at 2:30 p.m. Nov. 2.)

Convention office

The convention office will be located across from the registration area (see above). Incoming messages received at (601) 949-1924 will be posted at the convention office. An outgoing telephone line will be available for credit card calls only. Lost and found will also be located at the convention office.

Parking

Due to limited parking at First Church, Jackson, messengers and guests attending the 1994 sessions of the Mississippi Baptist Convention are encouraged to park at the Mississippi State Fairgrounds, behind the "Super Slide" at the Jefferson Street entrance. Shuttle service will begin at noon on Monday, Oct. 31, and continue through the last session on Wednesday, Nov. 2.

Display area

The display area will be located at the same site as previous conventions: Fellowship Hall West at First Church, Jackson.

Child care

First Church, Jackson, will offer preschool care for children ages birth through five during MBC-related meetings on Monday, Oct. 31, and for each session of the convention on Tuesday, Nov. 1, and Wednesday, Nov. 2. The nursery will open 20 minutes prior to each session and close 15 minutes after each session. Children may remain in the preschool area during the Tuesday, Nov. 1, lunch hour if parents provide a sack lunch.

HouseTops

What I tell you in the darkness, speak in the light; and what you hear whispered in your ear, proclaim upon the housetops. Matthew 10:27 NAS

October 20, 1994

HouseTops is a supplement to the Baptist Record and is produced by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board

BAPTIST 101 Fellowship



Baptists like koinonia—which is the Greek word for fellowship. However the word "koinonia" carries with it the idea of family strength. Members of the family look out for one another and share their possessions with each other. Generally, Baptists like one another. For instance, before a worship service, Baptists will yak. Some say it interferes with the tone of worship. But Baptists do like to talk. And they like to eat. In hundreds of interviews, no Baptist has ever acknowledged attending a bad covered dish dinner at church. Often, Baptists will win their closest friends to the Lord because the friends see the joy of the Christian life. That joy is expressed through fellowship with one another. It is over a cup of coffee (or non-caffeinated drink) that the greatest Christian friends are born and nurtured.

This is one in a series of articles on Baptists—who we are and what we stand for.

1995 All-State Youth Choir Auditions

February 6-28

Call the Church Music Department,
1-800-748-1651, for locations.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST MINISTERS' WIVES

*** First Baptist Church, Jackson ***
Monday, October 31, 1994
1:00-4:30 p.m.

* Inspiration, Fellowship, Personal Growth, Information and Support for the Minister's Wife!

* There is no cost for this conference.

* Child care will be available for preschoolers on a limited basis. Please use registration form to schedule child care by October 24.

Program Personnel



Rhonda Kelley

Rhonda Kelley - Minister's Wife; Associate Director of Innovative Evangelism, New Orleans



Lynda Street

Lynda Street - Minister's Wife; Administrative Assistant, Department of Christian Studies and Philosophy, Mississippi College

Registration Form

Complete the registration form and return to Julius C. Thompson, Church Administration-Pastoral Ministries Department, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205

Name _____ Home Phone No. _____
Church _____ Association _____
Home Address _____ City _____ Zip _____
Husband's Position _____
Names and birth dates of children you will bring _____

Pray this day... **November 1-15**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Prayer Ministry Office P.O. Box 530 Jackson, MS 39205-0530 Phone 968-3800, Ext. 3904 Mississippi Prayer Line		<i>Beth and Al Bailey, Guatemala - peace and safety, leadership training conferences in Western Guatemala</i> 1	<i>Susan and Jason Carlisle, Uruguay - for our work in encouraging and counseling pastors</i> 2	<i>Mary Alice Ditsworth, Singapore - for the ministry of our Family Life Center and our entire church, the Hougang Baptist Church, where I am a member</i> 3	<i>Florence and Wayne Frederick, France - for the Bible study groups there and for the adults who make professions of faith as a result of the study</i> 4	<i>Lori Funderburk, Sierra Leone, West Africa - that friends and family at home in the states will realize how much mail means to us and continue to be faithful to write</i> 5
<i>Emily and Al Green, Argentina - for us to pray more</i> 6	<i>Betty Hart, Chile - for our summer camp programs which begin in January in Chile, for needed improvements to the fairly new camp site</i> 7	<i>Minnie Hicks, Mexico - for the seminary in Lomas Verdes</i> 8	<i>Flora and Robert Holifield, Italy - for a national pastor for the Trastevere Baptist Church (Italian-speaking) when the missionary pastor retires in July 1995</i> 9	<i>Robin Parks Johnson, Japan - for my husband, Dave, as he teaches at the university, and for me as I lead so many Bible studies</i> 10	<i>Susan P. Jones, Canada - that the Baptist Student Ministry at the University of British Columbia will be effective, and for strong leaders to emerge for each aspect of the ministry</i> 11	<i>Milton W. Kliesch, Togo - for us as we study our local language, Ewe, and for me as I prepare to teach in French in the spring of '95 in the Ecole Baptist de theologie</i> 12
<i>Margaret and Frank Lay, Costa Rica - for the International Baptist Church, its leadership, and for God's direction in providing an adequate building</i> 13	<i>Cynthia and Tom Martin, Bolivia - that God will show us where He is working and how we can best join Him and work with Him</i> 14	<i>Rebecca and Morley Mason, Indonesia - for safety and for our continued language acquisition</i> 15	<i>We are praying for specific requests Mississippi missionaries sent in response to WorldSpan. In December we will pray for the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering allocations which the same missionaries shared with us... if you do not see something from your favorite missionary, you will know that we have not yet received their response back...</i>			



**THE Youth Music Celebration, on
June 27-July 1, 1995,
is more than you ever imagined.**

**Family Groups • Drama • Worship
Recreation • Fellowship
New Friends • Praise Music
Spiritual Growth**

This summer at Gulfshore Baptist Assembly

**Sponsored by the
Church Music Department
Mississippi Baptist Convention Board**

HOUSE OF

ACTEENS

ACTEENS & ACTEEN LEADERS REREAT
NOVEMBER 11 - 12, 1994

Theme: "Create in Me a Clean Heart"

Place: Camp Garaywa

Time: Friday 5:00 p.m.

Cost: \$23.00 per person

Highlights: Missionary Nap Seng (Taiwan),
music, worship, fellowship,
special interest conference

Registration Form

Deadline: November 7, 1994

Church _____ Association _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Person Sending in Registration _____

Number of people _____ x \$23.00 per person = \$ _____

Make checks payable to Camp Garaywa

Mail to:
Camp Garaywa
P.O. Box 1278
Clinton, MS 39060

GA'S

GA/ACTEENS DAY
DECEMBER 10, 1994

Theme: "Catch the Spirit"

Place: Mississippi College

Time: 1:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Cost: \$7.50 per person

(includes registration, meal,
limited insurance)

Highlights: basketball game, missionary,
cheerleaders, games

Registration Form

Deadline: December 7, 1994

Church _____ Association _____

Contact Person _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Church Phone _____

Number Registering _____ Amount sent _____

Mail to:
GA/Acteens Day at MC
Woman's Missionary Union
P.O. Box 530
Jackson, MS 39205-0530

Bible Drill CLINICS

Bible Drill Leadership Development

NOVEMBER 7

CITY	CHURCH	TIME	LEADER
Greenwood	First Baptist Church	7:00 - 8:30	Steve Jackson
Hernando	Hernando Baptist Church	7:00 - 8:30	Lillian Walters
Blount	First Baptist Church	7:00 - 8:30	Tom & Lucile Winstead

NOVEMBER 8

CITY	CHURCH	TIME	LEADER
Clinton	First Baptist Church	7:00 - 8:30	Steve Jackson
Tupelo	First Baptist Church	7:00 - 8:30	Lillian Walters
Hattiesburg	First Baptist Church	7:00 - 8:30	Tom & Lucile Winstead

NOVEMBER 10

CITY	CHURCH	TIME	LEADER
Starkville	Calvary Baptist Church	7:00 - 8:30	Steve Jackson
Brookhaven	First Baptist Church	7:00 - 8:30	Lillian Walters
Meridian	First Baptist Church	7:00 - 8:30	Tom & Lucile Winstead

Bible Skills for Women and Youth

(for grandparents and all others)
Featuring the author of "Grand Parenting By Grace," Irene Endicott, Seattle, Wash.
May 18-20, 1995; May 22-24, 1995
and Dennis Lyle, Nashville, Tenn.
May 25-27, 1995

Gulfshore Baptist Assembly *Senior Adult Retreats* "Grand Parenting By Grace"

Leadership includes: Dr. Lavone Moore, Pastor
Mrs. Pauline Moore, Instrumentalist; Mrs. Irene Martin, Instrumentalist
and a Senior Adult Choir
The Agenda: Noon to Noon
"You'll Just Love It"

WITNESSING-MY SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY



BREAKTHROUGH...Witness to Win is the theme for the final year of the BREAKTHROUGH emphasis. What an appropriate theme it is! The Sunday School is one of the church's finest tools for teaching the biblical message and for mobilizing people to reach the lost. By planning its work, your Sunday School can reach and teach people effectively.

Some special opportunities exist in 1994-95 to bring persons to a saving knowledge of our Lord. Plan to maximize these opportunities through the Sunday School and through Here's Hope. Share Jesus Now. activities; they may make a difference in someone's life.

A strong foundation is the key to effectiveness. Certain basic events can strengthen every aspect of the work of most Sunday Schools.

Some suggestions may need adaptation to fit the specific needs of your church but give consideration to each one. An annual planning event is an ideal time to schedule these and other emphases for 1994-95.

Detailed help for annual planning is found in the *Sunday School Plan Book, 1994-95*. Also, appropriate issues of *The Sunday School Leader: Larger Church Edition* or *The Sunday School Leader: Smaller Church Edition* (church literature dated form/Customer Service Center) can be of use throughout the year.

Lay Missions Conference

...through the concept of Marketplace Ministry. If we are to win Mississippi and the world to Jesus in our generation, it is significant that each of us become marketplace ministers.

October 31, 1994

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, JACKSON
MISSIONS FELLOWSHIPS &
INTEREST CONFERENCES: 3 P.M.

Agricultural Missions

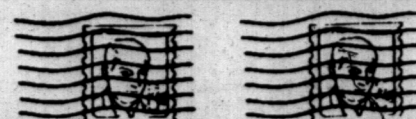
Campers On Mission • Church Renewal
Construction Missions • Educational Missions
Criminal Justice • Intercessory Prayer • Marketplace
Witnessing • Mississippi River Ministry
Partnership Missions • Volunteers in Missions

BANQUET: 5 P.M.

Chuck Kelley will be the featured speaker.
Rick ... will be ...



Letters to the editor



Good reports

Editor:

At First Church of Greenville, so many good things are happening. James Richardson and his wife of Madison led us for seven months as interim pastor — he gently led us and prepared us for a new pastor, and his son, Jay Richardson, became our new pastor in April.

Rick Ball of First Church, Madison, became our new education director and associate pastor.

Our church celebrated the 40th anniversary of Kenneth and Catherine Forbus with a book of letters, a love offering, and an afternoon of singing and well-wishing. One of the highlights was the music by his children Rick and Kathy, and their children and spouses. As pastor, Jay wrote in the bulletin: "How blessed your church is to have had two of God's finest for 40 years.... The best news is that this is not a retirement party, but a celebration of 40 years of service."

On Oct. 9 the 1950-59 Sunday School classes taught by Sudie Pearl (Frank) Baldwin had a reunion. A total of 41 attended. Sudie Pearl has taught continuously for over 44 years and has taught thousands of Sunday School lessons. Her clear voice

with the same forceful teaching was enjoyed by all. [The event] ended with a luncheon.

Maudaline Q. Pepper
Greenville

Correction, please

Editor:

Please allow me to make a correction. In a recent issue of *The Baptist Record*, reference was made to my resignation as associate recording secretary of the Mississippi Baptist Convention. The reason stated was "due to failing health." I want all my friends to know that my general health is excellent. The reason for my resignation is an eye problem, which makes writing quite difficult for me. I continue to function well, preach almost every Sunday, preach in revivals, and lead conferences. Your prayer support is appreciated.

W. Levon Moore
Kosciusko

Agrees with leaders

Editor:

I guess you remember me. I wrote you a couple of years ago accusing you to be a liberal editor. Well, two years have come and gone and I have not changed my mind one bit about you and your

slanted viewpoints concerning our SBC, the Foreign Mission Board, the firings of liberals who preside over our Southern Baptist seminaries, on and on. True enough, you are supposed to print all the news but you know and I know that you can in doing that report only that news that you are in agreement with or against. I know you are evidently upset about the conservative direction of our SBC. Well, I'm a conservative also. In fact I consider myself a conservative conservative. I'm totally in agreement with our SBC and Foreign Mission Board in weeding out anybody that weakens that conservative view that I consider "pure" to Bible teachings and will not tolerate anybody or anything to dilute it. The firing of Dilday, the SBC rule not to accept monies from that splinter group called Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, the action taken a while back about the seminary in Switzerland, the editor's dismissal in Florida; I can tell when you are disturbed. I think we need a conservative editor for our *Baptist Record*.

Bobby Abraham
Clarksdale

Editor's Note: You can be a conservative (which I am) and still oppose some of the actions of

SBC leadership. Being conservative cannot always be equated with being right. The Pharisees were always conservative. To clarify, the Florida editor resigned. See Sept. 1 issue of *The Baptist Record*.

Plea for help

Editor:

As you know, the Christian Endowment Foundation has been collecting and shipping Bibles and New Testaments into the English-speaking countries of East and West Africa since 1981, free.

To date, in excess of 2.6 million Bibles have been placed in churches, hospitals, and schools, as well as direct to pastors and individuals in over 13 countries throughout East and West Africa.

However, our supplies of Bibles and New Testaments are almost exhausted.

The purpose of the Foundation is sending God's Word, the Bible, free, to those in need worldwide.

The 2.6 million already sent are but grains of sand in number to the requests we have received already.

For more information, have your readers contact us at: The Christian Endowment Foundation, Inc., P.O. Box 1387, Eustis, FL 32727; phone/FAX (904)

357-7557.

If you need a reference concerning the Foundation, please call or write James B. Henry, pastor of the First Church, Orlando, Fla. Henry has been on our advisory committee since 1982 and is very active in our Bible procurement program.

F. Ray Dorman
Board chairman
Christian Endowment
Foundation
Eustis, Fla.

James Berch, 74, dies

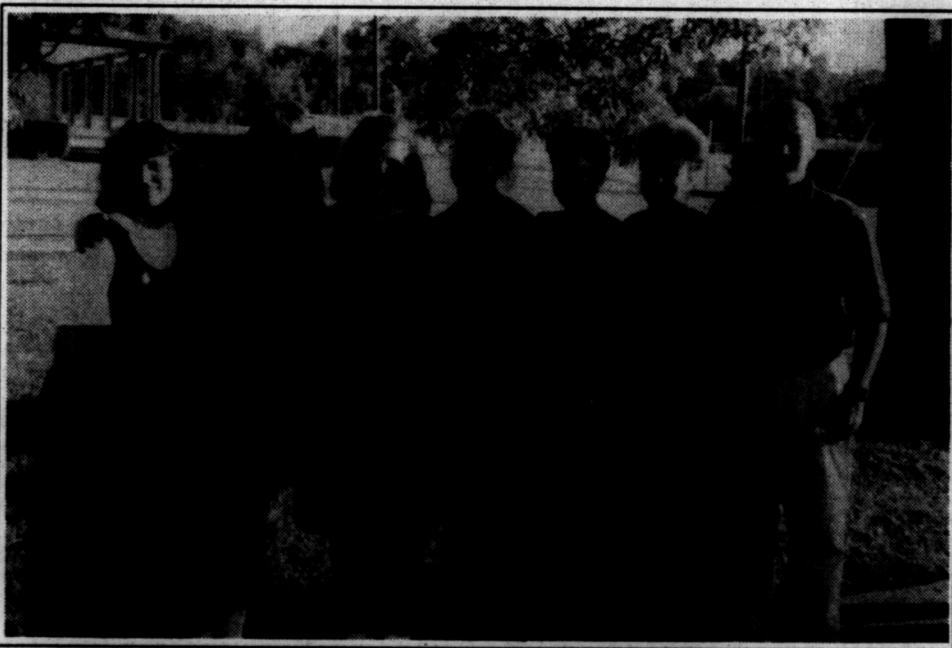
Retired Mississippi Baptist pastor James Berch, 74, died Oct. 16 of heart failure. Services were held Oct. 18 at Westside Church, Hazlehurst, with burial in Georgetown City Cemetery.

A graduate of Mississippi College, Berch was pastor of churches in Copiah and Simpson counties for 40 years.

He was preceded in death by his wife Hilda.

He is survived by a daughter, Becky Smith of Mendenhall; two sisters; two grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

William Carey College Students and Faculty Minister in:



Brazil

Music professors Josephine D'Arpa and Eugene Winters participated in the Foreign Mission Board's Volunteer Missions Program this summer by sharing their faith and musical talents with students at the Baptist Equatorial Theological Seminary in the city of Belem, Brazil. "It was a wonderful and gratifying experience - one which we shall treasure all our lives; and we're grateful to missionaries Ronnie and Beth Parker, to the Foreign Mission Board, and to William Carey College for providing us the opportunity and the means to share our faith in Brazil," said Dr. Winters.

China

In cooperation with the Foreign Missions Board and the Cooperative Services International Education Consortium, Iris Easterling (assistant professor of English and executive assistant to the president) taught English as a second language in China at the Hainan Foreign Language Normal School July 7 - August 18. Concerning her experience in China, Mrs. Easterling said, "Never have I encountered people as sensitive, generous and appreciative as the students in our workshop. I am thankful for the opportunity to model Christ's love in a country closed to the Gospel."

Mexico

Martha Morris, assistant professor of nursing and Dr. Tom Lott, professor of modern languages, led 13 nursing students, 2 nursing faculty members on a mission trip to Mexico. In evaluating the mission trip, Morris said, "We traveled each day to a different mission clinic site in poverty areas of northern Mexico. During the four days we spent in Mexico, we witnessed at least 15 spiritual conversions and were able to participate in the treatment of 150 persons, dispensing over 200 prescriptions."

Honduras

Carey students continue to be actively involved in the Honduras/Mississippi Baptist Partnership. During the week of August 6 - 13 Selena Mangum, Cassie Beutin, Heather Arnold, Resa Spann, Paula Pounds, Mrs. Ann Pounds and Jerry Corley ministered through Vacation Bible School programs at several orphanages in the capital city of Tegucigalpa, Honduras.

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Just for the Record



Royal Ambassadors and Girls in Action from Springdale Church, West, recently completed 200 hygiene kits for the Mississippi Baptist Disaster Relief Ministry. Many of the items included in the kits were donated by businesses in Kosciusko. Pollye McMillan and Sonny Cummina direct the organizations. Tim H. Weisheim is pastor.



First Church, Brandon, recently held a Girls in Action recognition service. The theme for the service was "?!?! Choices?!?!?" and included girls in the first through sixth grades.



Calvary Church, Canton, recently held a note burning ceremony to observe the retirement of the debt on its fellowship hall. Taking part in the ceremony (left to right) were: Terrell Lamkin, chairman of deacons; Roy Cleveland, chairman of trustees; and Jim Hurt, interim pastor.

Missionaries return to Haiti

DAVIE, Fla. (BP) — Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board (FMB) personnel who left Haiti during the summer finally returned to the island nation Oct. 13 to prepare for relief projects involving at least 150 Southern Baptist volunteers.

The mission workers planned to arrive in Haiti about 12 hours after the leader of Haiti's military junta — Lt. Gen. Raoul Cedras — left for exile in Panama.

They flew from Miami to Port-au-Prince, Haiti's capital, aboard

American Airlines, which resumed flights to Haiti Oct. 12.

The Southern Baptist team will pave the way for upcoming relief projects in Haiti sponsored by the FMB and the Brotherhood Commission.

The FMB has contributed \$386,000 for the relief effort and more than \$400,000 for a two-year water well repair project.

To volunteer for the Haiti relief projects, call the Brotherhood Commission at 1-800-280-1891.

Philip Vandercook announces the opening of a new Seamen's Center in La Place, La., upriver from New Orleans. The center will hold a dedication and open house Oct. 30.

The William Carey College Theatre will open its 1994-95 season with "The Glass Menagerie," at 8 p.m. in the O.L. Quave Theatre on campus, Oct. 20-22. The production is designed completely by students: Tim Matheny, set; Jennifer Head, lighting; Peter Smeal, costumes; and Jennifer Bilbo, sound. Admission is \$6. For more information, call (601) 582-6221.

Salem Church, Tylertown, will hold a dedication service for its new gym and fellowship hall on Oct. 23 at 10:50 a.m. There will be a dinner in the fellowship hall following the service. The church only lacks \$49,000 to retire the debt on the two buildings, which have a total of 6,580 square feet. Johnny Sykes is pastor.

Mt. Vernon Church, Meridian, recently observed high attendance day. Goal for the day was 125; total attendance was 141, the highest number in Sunday School in the history of the church.

A conference on Ministry to the Deaf Congregation will be held in the Center for Evangelism and Church Growth on the New Orleans Seminary campus, Nov. 1-3. Keynote speakers will be Nathan Corbitt of St. Davids, Pa., and Edward Thiele of New Orleans. Cost for the event is \$35 — including materials and refreshments — if registered before Oct. 24. For more information or to register, call the seminary at (504) 282-4455, ext. 3260.

First Church, Pearl, will host the Blackwood Brothers in concert on Oct. 22 at 7 p.m. For more information, call the church at (601) 939-4476.

Corinth Church, Heidelberg, will host its annual Fall Festival on Oct. 27 at 6 p.m. Activities will include cake walk, games, and food. A prize will be given for best costume, but the church requests no spooky costumes. For more information, call the church at (601) 787-3828. Stanley Doggett is pastor.

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Revival Dates

Grandview, Pearl: Oct. 23-26; Sunday, 10:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Wade Chappell, pastor.

Mt. Vernon, Liberty: Oct. 21-23; Fri. and Sat., 7 p.m.; Sunday, 11 a.m.; Bruce Cappleman, evangelist; Curtis Bishop, music; Scott Cappleman, pastor.

Cascilla (Tallahatchie): Oct. 31-Nov. 4; 7 p.m.; David Shepherd, Pensacola, Fla., evangelist; Clyde Cranford, West Memphis, Ark., music; David Sapp, pastor.

Galilee First, Gloster: one-night revival, Oct. 27; 7 p.m.;

Bobby Ready, Ponchatoula, La., evangelist; Lollie Ready, music; Sammy Smith, pastor.

Emmanuel, Ocean Springs: Oct. 23-28; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Mon.-Fri., 7 p.m.; Gerald Martin, Vicksburg, evangelist; Gordon Alford, Vancleave, music; Sanford Sherman, pastor.

Lowrey Memorial, Blue Mountain: Oct. 23-28; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Mon.-Fri., 7 p.m.; Matt Buckles, MBCB Department of Church Administration, evangelist; Leon Enzor, music; Tim Crosby, pastor.

North McComb (Pike): Oct. 23-26; Sunday, homecoming, 10:30 a.m. worship with dinner on the grounds, noon; 7 nightly; Lee Castle, Macon, evangelist; Billy Bowie, Osceola, Ark., music; Ron Plymel, pastor.

Midway, Jackson: Oct. 27-30; Thurs.-Sat., 7 p.m.; Sunday, 10:15 a.m.; David Miller, Heber Springs, Ark., evangelist; Tom Larrimore, music; H. Bryan Abel, pastor.

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Staff Changes

Thursday, October 20, 1994

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 2

Names in the News

Hugh A. Martin, has resigned in Arlington, Texas.

the pastorate of Spring Creek Church in Neshoba County to enter full-time evangelism. To contact him for supply, interim, and revival work, call (601) 656-9713 or write 417 Crockett Ave., Philadelphia, MS 39350.

Martin

Graceland Church, Vancleave, has called Daniel M. Britt of Biloxi as pastor. The North Carolina native is a graduate of Wake Forest University and Southwestern Seminary. He recently retired after 26 years with the State of Mississippi School System. Britt also pastored churches in Florida and Georgia.

Russ Barksdale has resigned after five years as pastor of First Church, Carthage, to accept a position with Rush Creek Church

Darryl L. Prater has been called by Holmeswood Church, Kansas City, Mo., as minister of music, effective Oct. 26. Prater has served First, Cleveland, as minister of music/media since 1989.

New Hope Church, Mt. Olive, has called Mark Robinson as pastor. A graduate of New Orleans Seminary, he previously served churches in Benton, Vicksburg, and Indiana. He is married and has three children.

Robinson

Friendship Church, McComb, has called Johnny Sykes of Brookhaven as pastor, effective Nov. 1. He currently serves Salem Church, Tylertown. Sykes is a graduate of Clarke College, Mississippi College, and New Orleans Seminary.

Richard L. Greaves, head of the History Department at Florida State University, will deliver the R. Glen Eaves Lectureship in the Mississippi College B.C. Rogers Student Center at 7 p.m. Oct. 24. Topic of his lecture will be "The Early Baptists: Radicals, Primitivists, or Reformers." Admission is free. He is the author of nine books and a past president of the American Society of Church History.

NASHVILLE — John M. McCarty of Jackson has earned the diploma in Biblical studies from the Seminary Extension Independent Study Institute, located in the Southern Baptist Convention Building. He is a member of Woodland Hills Church, Jackson.

Mrs. John (Catherine) Vandercook died Oct. 5 in New Orleans. The Vandercooks pastored in Tinsley and Skene prior to going to the Seamen's Ministry in New Orleans.

Findley B. Edge, former Southern Seminary professor, will be guest lecturer for the Howard E. Spell Lecture series at Mississippi College during chapel periods, at 10 a.m. on Oct. 24-26. He will also deliver a lecture for the public, "Some Serious Thoughts on the Nature of the Salvation Relationship," at 7 p.m. Oct. 25 in B.C. Rogers Student Center on campus.

Purvis Everitt and C.H. Means were recently honored with a reception by Antioch Church, Rankin Association. Everitt was ordained as deacon; Means was newly elected to serve. Marion Spence is pastor.

Daisy Wood Sills died Oct. 12 at age 89. Services were held at Northminister Church, Jackson. She was a former employee of the Hinds-Madison Association. A member of Griffith Memorial Church, Jackson, for 51 years, Sills served 48 years as a Sunday School teacher, for which her photo hangs in the Baptist Sunday School Board's Teacher Wall of Fame. Preceded in death by her husband Frank, she is survived by her daughter Connie Kossen of Jackson and a grandson.



Wynndale Church, Terry, recently ordained Val Moore (left) as deacon. Eddie Hamilton (right), director of missions for Hinds-Madison Association, delivered the message. Charles Gentry (center) is pastor.



LifeAnswers

Ron Mumbower, Ed.D.
Minister of Counseling
First Church, Jackson

My husband is critical of me and says hurtful things. Five years ago he decided we would no longer have sex. My doctor, minister, and counselor have been helpful, but nothing has changed. He is active in church, Promise Keepers, and reads his Bible daily.

— right, acknowledge it. Encourage him to attend his Promise Keepers meetings, and voice your appreciation for his willingness to do the right thing.

How can I share my faith on a regular basis with family members who live a long distance away?

First, put this article where he can see it. The fourth promise of a Promise Keeper states, "A Promise Keeper is committed to building strong marriages and families through love, protection, and biblical values." When a man commits himself to a Promise Keepers group, he becomes accountable to that group of men to keep his promises. A group that is operating correctly will also be sensitive to a member's spouse and may even ask how you are doing. When that happens, be honest — not by putting down your husband but by voicing your desire to have more in your marriage. Don't gossip or go into detail; speak from your hurt and need. Secondly, pray that his group and the Holy Spirit will open your husband's eyes. Lastly, be supportive and encouraging. This does not mean you are his doormat, but remember that you are serving the Lord and loving yourself at the same time when you offer support and encouragement. When your husband does something — anything

Use cards and stationery that have some form of scripture message or verse. This can be less offensive than writing the message or verse in your own handwriting. Be sensitive to their times of need and be there with a note or "happy." Keep up with anniversaries of hurts, deaths, and special occasions, and drop them a line on those days. "Reach out and touch" them with a quick telephone call to let them know you are thinking about them. Ask them how things are going and if they ask about you, briefly share some really great thing that has happened. Don't sermonize or make long conversation, but let them talk as long as they are sharing their story. If they are avid readers, pass along good books with a note that the books might provide encouragement. Going slow is best. Encourage conversation and spend more time listening than talking. Always be available so they will know where to turn in time of crisis.

Send your counseling questions to LifeAnswers c/o The Baptist Record, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. Please be brief. Name is not required. Remember: in time of crisis, your pastor can make recommendations on your counseling needs.

Homecomings

First of Runnelstown, Petal: Oct. 23; Sunday School, 9 a.m.; worship, 10; dinner in fellowship hall, noon; afternoon fellowship; Henry Freeman, pastor.

First, Mathiston: Oct. 23; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; worship, 11; dinner in family life center, noon; singing and fellowship, 1:30; Cecil Clegg, guest speaker; Owen Riddick, pastor.

Glendale, Leland: Oct. 23; 11 a.m. with Jimmy Chittom, son of former pastor, guest speaker; covered dish luncheon in fellowship hall; afternoon singing with the Johnson Trio, Greenville; Keith Dendy, pastor.

Mt. Zion, Florence: Oct. 23; services, 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.; dinner on the grounds; no night services; Harold McLendon, guest speaker; Lee Faulkner, music; Tommy Bufkin, pastor.

Holcomb (Grenada): Oct. 23; worship, 11 a.m.; covered dish lunch, noon; Dale Gravatt, Memphis, guest speaker; Randy Ashley, pastor.

Springdale, Ripley: Oct. 23; 11 a.m.; covered dish dinner in fellowship hall; afternoon singing, 1:30; no night services; Lyndle Davis, Ripley, guest speaker; Harmon Griffin Jr., Ripley, music; Maurice Pinkston, pastor.

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Uniform Overcoming reluctance



By Richard Bradley
1 Samuel 9, 10

Ever been asked to assume a position of responsibility and leadership and felt less than adequate for the task? Of course you have. We all have. But this passage is a vivid reminder to God's people that faith in God's presence and power can help us to overcome a reluctance to lead or to be involved in God's work.

If you have ever served on a committee on committees or a nominating committee in a local church you've no doubt heard the words, "I can't do that." These words represent a committee member's nightmare. Too many Christians are trusting what they can do rather than what God can do through them. Give me a less talented individual who is willing to trust God any day over a more than capable individual who does not recognize the involvement of God in the work of the church.

God revealed to Samuel the man he had selected to be king over Israel (9:15-17). These verses are a clear reminder to us that God communicates his will to his people. Sometimes we lose sight of the fact that God desires to be intimately involved in the lives of his people. Therefore, when we sense a certain distance between ourselves and God, it was probably not God who moved. In the years of my ministry, the most often asked question of this pastor has been, "How do I know the will of God for my life?" Begin with a basic assumption that God wants you to know his will for your life and is willing to communicate it to you.

At God's bidding, Samuel anointed Saul as king (10:1a). He may not have wanted to, he may not have thought it best for the people to have a king, but Samuel did it anyway because this is what God told him to do. Life would be simpler if we did everything God told us to do.

Beyond the lesson of Samuel's faithfulness to God, we also learn from these verses that God still chooses people to lead in his work. What people do with the opportunity God gives them to serve is another matter. What we must realize is that God is never wrong. We may not understand his reasons for doing what he does and selecting whom he would, but we must also realize that he alone is sovereign. There is nothing he does not understand and there is no heart he does not know. God has never selected anyone to serve in any capacity when another choice would have been more appropriate.

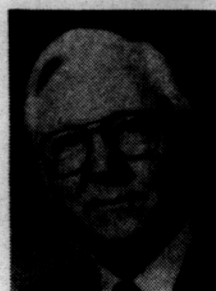
Samuel called together the tribes at Mizpeh — Saul was nowhere to be found (10:20-21). How different from the Saul of the days to come when he demonstrated his willingness to hang onto the monarchy at any cost; even at the expense of David's life. Give me this Saul any day! Studying Saul's reluctance to assume his role as king of Israel can help us to overcome our reluctance to assume leadership responsibilities in our church.

Who knows why Saul hid himself? He could have been shy, he could have been frightened at the prospect of being king, he could have felt less than worthy of such a signal honor, or he could have been simply rebellious. But he hid himself when the people came looking for him. Problem is, he couldn't hide himself from God and it was God who had chosen him to be king. He could have saved himself a lot of trouble by just showing up for the coronation. Once God's will is revealed our only logical course of action is to subordinate our will to his own. Our will is not always his. But his will and his way is always best. God knows what he's doing. I don't think Saul ever quite figured that out. God help us not to miss this wonderful truth.

Samuel publicly presented Saul to the people as their king (10:22-24). Digging through the baggage, the people found their king. Certainly an inauspicious beginning for this man chosen by God to lead his people. As Saul was presented to the people, I'm sure they were reminded of where their loyalties now lay. They were now to be loyal to him as he followed God's leadership. God's chosen leaders deserve our loyal support. They are God's representatives. God's leaders are not without flaws and often make mistakes and wrong decisions. This is why we must pray for them and constantly remind ourselves that they are human like we are. Be loyal to those whom God has chosen and he will bless you for your honest effort.

Bradley is pastor, Handsboro Church, Gulfport.

Bible Book Unity in Christ



By Raymond Kolb
Ephesians 4

Paul has already declared his apostleship (1:1). He has stated God's purpose (1:10). He has made it clear that believing Gentiles are in God's plan and that they and believing Jews form the church, the body of Christ. All of this is based on God's love and his grace; never on the merit of human beings. He has made it clear that through his church (all saved people) God plans to make his "purpose of the ages which he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord" (3:11) known to all races and all peoples. Now he calls for unity of spirit and effort to carry this out.

Unity in Christ (vv. 1-6). Some of the emphasis on "call" seems to be lost in most translations. "I call you along to live worthily of the calling to which you were called" (v. 1). As a prisoner in Christ I want to tell you that you (the church) are a called people. Now, live worthily of your calling. Verses 2-3 mention some of the qualities which aid in keeping the unity God wants in his church. They are humility, gentleness, patience, bearing with (or holding up) one another, and peacefulness which is a bond helping to hold us together and preserve the unity in the Spirit.

Paul now lays down a sevenfold appeal, or reason, for Christians to practice the above mentioned qualities to achieve unity or oneness. There is "one body." It is the church, composed of all true believers in Christ. There are individual churches, some of which received this letter. These individual churches should strive for the qualities God wants in the church. They are, or should be, true representative parts of the church, or the church represented in a given locality. There is "one Spirit," the Holy Spirit, who makes it possible for the church to fulfill its task of correctly representing Christ, its head, before the world. There is "one hope." You who were called, and responded positively to that call, have the same hope in Christ. You have the same destiny in heaven with Christ. Surely this should be a reason for right relationships and a spirit of loving unity here and now.

There is "one Lord." Surely this refers to our Lord Jesus Christ. Can I really accept his lordship, accept him as owner and controller of my life while failing to recognize other Christians as having the same relationship to him? Can he be happy with me if I do not love my brother in Christ? Love one another. There is "one faith." Faith, or trust, is the one condition of salvation. It is an experience which all true believers in Christ have in common.

There is "one baptism." The language in which the New Testament was written has two forms of the same basic word, both of which are translated into English as "baptism." One form refers to action, the act of dipping, or immersing in water. This is an important act of obedience to Christ and is a declaration of what Christ has done for us and of the new life we now have in him. The other form of the word is the one used in this passage. It refers not to the act of immersion, but rather to the experience symbolized by this act. When I trusted Christ as my Savior, I experienced what is represented by the word "baptism" as used here. Later I was immersed, symbolizing what had taken place when I trusted Christ. The experience represented by the word as used here is common to all Christians. It is "one baptism," though not all are immersed. "One God and Father of all" completes the list. God is so great that we can never adequately describe him, nor fully understand, but he is so loving and kind that he is accessible to the least of his children. Will the day ever come when we can all live as loving brothers and sisters in the family of God rather than as squabbling siblings who misrepresent our loving Father before a lost world?

Christ's gifts bring unity to the church (vv. 7-13). The Christ who descended from heaven to earth captured sinners and made saints of them. He returned to heaven but has given gifts to his followers. He wants to work through us to continue capturing sinners and making saints of them. The gifts are varied — apostles, prophets, evangelists, and teachers. The functions are varied so that the whole body of Christ may function harmoniously as one body, mature, and complete.

Kolb is a retired missionary living in Clinton.

Life and Work Living "straight"



By Ruth Allen
Genesis 6:1 — 8:14

A swimming black bear has a curious habit of steering a straight course, regardless of the hurdles that may confront him. There are many snakes that insist on swimming in one direction. Observers in the tropics have reported instances where large swimming snakes have encountered a canoe; and instead of detouring around the canoe, they simply slithered over, across, and down the other side. Some land turtles are so determined to walk in a straight line that they will push against a telephone pole all day, rather than go around the obstacle. Bears, snakes, and turtles who follow a straight course are simply responding to built-in instincts over which there is no control.

The ability to choose one's course in life is the major distinction between man and beast. David, king of Israel, prayed the following prayer: "Lead me, O Lord, in thy righteousness because of mine enemies; make thy ways straight before my face" (Psalm 5:8). David recognized his dependence upon God to help him walk a straight path of righteousness. God has a master design for the human race. God's design and desire is that all people know him as Lord and walk in straight paths of righteousness. Noah is a classic example of one who chose to live straight in a crooked world. Christians would do well to follow the example set by Noah.

God vows to destroy a sinful world (6:5-7). God looked at the people he had created, and he saw rampant sin. The only exception was righteous Noah and his family. When God saw how sin perverted the hearts and minds of earth's inhabitants, he regretted having created the human race. The Lord vowed to wipe out the human race and all the animals. God chose a flood to eradicate mankind and all other life from the earth.

Enoch, one of Noah's ancestors, had warned the people about the consequences of sinful living (Jude 14-15). Noah, a preacher of righteousness, had also delivered a message of warning concerning the judgment of God (2 Peter 2:5). However, the sinful people of Noah's world refused to repent, and God ended the terrible era of gross sinfulness. The Genesis passage of scripture vividly portrays the world in which we live today. God is not pleased as he looks down upon a wicked and perverse world.

Noah and his family found grace in the eyes of God (6:8-9, 7:1-7). Noah found grace because he was righteous in the eyes of God and was commanded to build an ark. Noah and his sons went immediately to work and constructed an ark 450 feet long, 75 feet high, and 45 feet wide. The ark was large enough to house and sustain Noah's family and animals for 150 days. Construction of the ark was no small feat for Noah and his family. Noah's group was safe and secure because he was righteous and trusted God for everything. The Master Designer gave Noah a design for an ark of safety. Noah came through the flood because he was obedient to God; he lived straight in a crooked world.

The coral islands of the Pacific rise and bask in the light of a tropic sun. Lagoons of fresh water abound, while the island base is surrounded by the barren, salty, angry waves of the sea. Righteous Christians are comparable to the fresh water, and those who are unrighteous are comparable to the salty sea. The rains fall from heaven, and the lagoons readily store it to sustain life, while the same pure rain is diluted and lost in the salty sea. Noah was a storehouse of righteousness; he and his family formed the basis for a new start on a new earth because of their willingness to be straight in a perverse world.

Noah reaped multiple benefits for his obedience through righteousness. His influence has been felt by all who listen and obey. He was rewarded by God for his faithfulness, but most of all he was preserved through the flood. Noah and his family had the distinct honor of perpetuating the human race by the grace of God. His family held the unique position of bringing forth a righteous generation. All Christians should seek to bring forth a righteous generation who will live straight in a crooked world. When God's people rise above the sinfulness of this earth and live righteous lives, God is then pleased with his creation.

Allen lives in Jackson.

THE VILLAGE VIEW

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Ronny E. Robinson, Executive Director

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A portion of *The Village View* is allocated each month to a list of Gifts of Honor and Memory. Many groups and individuals elect to pay tribute to others through this sensitive, meaningful and helpful medium. This feature is hopefully designed to further honor, with taste and respect, those who are and have been special to our special friends.

**AUG. 1, 1994-
AUG. 31, 1994**

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Mrs. Willie Martin Tharrel Stewart



On August 13, 1994 the Alumni Association of The Baptist Children's Village and the Mississippi Baptist Orphanage held its bi-annual Alumni Reunion. Old friends and family gathered together for a very special day. Some who had sung in Village choirs or ensembles came together to once again lift their voices in song. Following a general business session, dinner was served in the Hester Activities Building. The highlight of the day was the dedication of The Baptist Children's Village Archive Room. Countless memories were rekindled as Alumni walked through and found early pictures of friends and family.

Several smaller groups gathered after lunch for an informal, more personal time of fellowship. The next Alumni meeting will be held in 1996.



"It's a dirty job, but somebody has to do it." Mr. Bobby Warren, seen here out of his usual plaid shirt and slacks, is always a diligent, willing servant in his and Mrs. Edna's ministry at The Village. There is a need for other couples, like Mr. Bobby and Mrs. Edna to serve as Child Care Workers at The Village. If you are interested in a residential position caring for young people please call Mrs. Peggy Taylor at (601) 922-2242.



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Tommy Stewart
Mrs. Mary V. Golding
Mr. Victor Stokes
Mr. & Mrs. Eugene Bigham III
Carol Strickland
The Algie Moore Family
James Stroud
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Mr. & Mrs. W. T. West
Mrs. E. F. Embry
(to be continued)

capsules

SENIORS' YEARBOOK PLEDGE: TO REMAIN PURE: ORLANDO, Fla. (BP) — Five high school seniors made a bold statement for abstinence last spring. After signing True Love Waits pledge cards with about 650 others from First Church, Orlando, Fla., the students purchased a full-page ad in the Dr. Phillips High School yearbook to tell about the pledge they had taken. The ad features high school prom photos of Robby Hurd, Toby Ayers, Bobby Fritts, Brad Crosby, and Justin Carpenter — with their dates — encircling the True Love Waits logo. "We wanted to show that we're not 'geeks,'" Hurd said. "We decided that this would be a good way to take a stand. It held us accountable to the whole school." When they designed the ad, Hurd said he was also thinking of the future: "It will be something neat to hand to my wife someday and say, 'Read this page,' because I really kept my pledge." All five men now attend college. Four participated in high school sports; three earned letters and other awards; one placed in the top three in state competition.

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR LEAVES CENTER FOR ETHICS: NASHVILLE (ABP) — Gene Lovelace has resigned after one year as associate director of the Baptist Center for Ethics, a Nashville-based clearinghouse for resources on Christian ethics. Lovelace, 39, said he has accepted a job with a long-time acquaintance selling automated office equipment at a firm in Nashville, where he will specialize in church markets. A former minister of education, Lovelace specialized in ethics education while at the BCE.

CBF "HERE TO STAY," KEITH PARKS SAYS: LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (ABP) — The Cooperative Baptist Fellowship is "here to stay," Keith Parks told several Baptist churches during a recent swing through Arkansas. Parks, who served 13 years as president of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, is CBF global missions coordinator. Describing the CBF as "a movement within Southern Baptist life" rather than a separate denomination, Parks said SBC leaders "are determined to identify us as a denomination. They want to do that because they feel that would hinder our growth. We don't accept that tag." Voicing hope that the SBC and CBF "can co-exist," Parks said he believes SBC leaders "are going to try to destroy us, but I don't think they can. Hopefully in the future there will be sort of at least a truce, if not a peace, and we can co-exist as Baptists and churches will choose, individuals will choose how they express their Baptist convictions beyond their own church."

BSSB NAMES NEW WOMEN'S MINISTRY CONSULTANT: NASHVILLE (BP) — Culminating a national search, Baptist Sunday School Board officials announced Oct. 10 Christine "Chris" Adams will become women's ministry consultant in the board's discipleship and family development division. Adams, special ministries associate for Green Acres Church, Tyler, Texas, will join the board Dec. 1, according to Jay Johnston, manager of the field service section. Adams and her husband Pat, an ordained minister working in the area of chaplaincy, have twin college-age daughters, Amanda and Alicia.

JACK BRYMER TO RECEIVE FIRST ABP FREEDOM AWARD: JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (ABP) — A Baptist editor who resigned rather than surrender his paper's editorial freedom has been named first recipient of a religious freedom award sponsored by Associated Baptist Press. The executive committee of ABP's board of directors voted unanimously Sept. 13 to bestow their first Religious Freedom Award on Jack Brymer. Brymer resigned Aug. 26 after 10 years as editor of the Florida Baptist Witness, citing repeated efforts by the paper's board of directors to encourage him to tone down his reporting of controversy and to avoid using news stories from ABP. Brymer will accept the award at a banquet scheduled Oct. 27 in Nashville.

Bibliocipher

By Charles Marx
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BPNK, U UXK QUA; HUK YP NKP APWDRWPA;
NJA EXKJ EBPRK KPDKUNOB XDUJ EBPRK UYJ
BPNA, NJA QRLP EBPT HUK N DKPZ RJ EBP CNJA
UH ONDERLREZ:

JPBPTRNH HUXK: HUXK

This week's clue: X equals U.

Have fun with cryptography and exercise your Bible knowledge. A King James Version Bible verse has been encoded by letter substitution. The same letter is substituted throughout the puzzle. Solve by trial and error. Answer to last week's puzzle: Proverbs Ten: Two.

Husbands, wives given tools to be best friends at festival

The Baptist Record was invited to be the guest of the Baptist Sunday School Board for the Fall Festival of Marriage held at the New Orleans Seminary Sept. 16-18. Theme for this year's festival was "Husbands and Wives: The Best of Friends." The following article is last in a series of observations of the weekend by Record staffer Shannon Simpson.

Day 3: Sunday morning. We have chosen the "Screamers and Scramblers" workshop. I'm glad I indulged in an extra cup of coffee before we came went in to this session.

Danny and Linda Downing of Mobile, Ala., lead us in games of baby ring toss (with LifeSavers and toothpicks), baby egg toss (with M&Ms), balloon race, and silly stories.

I am not surprised the room is almost full, testimony that we aren't the only ones who need to cut loose a little. I hit my husband Ellis in the tooth with an M&M during baby egg toss. We laugh and give up so I can take pictures.

We meet Angie and Francis Horton of Clinton. Former members of Morrison Heights Church, they are studying at New Orleans Seminary until next summer, when they will leave for a Cooperative Services International assignment in Pakistan.

We spend the last workshop time in the cafeteria's Creole Room with Pat and Monte Clendinning. He is now a counseling professor at Southwestern Seminary. She is conference coordinator for the World Mission Center there.

This morning, they teach on "Oneness in Spirit." I am a tiny bit uneasy. Satan has used this topic as a wedge between Ellis and me in the past. Thankfully, the Clendinnings ask for grace in their opening prayer — exactly the word I was breathing to God.

Using the illustration of the triangle with God at the top, husband and wife at either bottom corner, they say a couple grows closer to each other as each grows closer to God. Five key elements are necessary to build oneness: talking, praying, studying, serving, and dreaming together.

Monte explains to us a theory she espouses: co-creation. That is, God brought Ellis to me, and uses



Angie and Francis Horton of Clinton (front) blow up balloons for a game of balloon race during the "Screamers and Scramblers" workshop of the Fall Festival of Marriage held on the New Orleans Seminary campus, Sept. 16-18. The Hortons are studying at the seminary in preparation for a Cooperative Services International assignment in Pakistan beginning next summer.

Ellis to continue to create me in His image. I like that theory, for it means all the hard work is spiritually priceless.

She also explains we should strive for "oneness" not only in the Holy Spirit, but also in the "spirit" of attitude, motivation, and life purpose.

After the workshop, we talk with Jay and Marsha Curry, members of River Bend Church in Baton Rouge, La. The high school sweethearts are originally from Eupora. They won a prize for having the youngest children of any couple at the festival.

Final general session. Four Mile Creek Church in Escatawpa wins a set of videos — with 13 couples, they are the largest church group in attendance.

The Gabriels perform two more skits — one, humorous and the other, so touching it leaves hardly a dry eye in the place. We worship and pray, hear parting words from the Turnbills, are exhorted to recommit our lives and marriages to Christ and to our earthly best friends, and are dismissed.

Though I am tired, I don't really

want to leave. I fear old habits of criticism and neglect will be easy to fall into when we return to the "real" world.

On the drive home, we decide the main things we gained were: time together, reaffirmation of directions we have set, and a feeling that we've come a long way from the couple we were six years ago. We have learned basics of communicating and problem resolution, and have become fairly adept at putting them to use.

I recommend Fall Festivals for any couple, but especially for couples who are stressed and need time together.

Offered at locations across the country, a Fall Festival of Marriage would be an excellent gift to a pastor or engaged couple. For more information on locations, dates, and lodging, call the Baptist Sunday School Board at (615) 251-2277; or to register, call (615) 251-2294.

Montana Baptists hike CP by 1 percent for '95

HAVRE, Mont. (BP) — The Montana Southern Baptist Fellowship hiked its Cooperative Program giving by 1% during its annual meeting Oct. 5-6 at Immanuel Church, Havre, Mont.

A 1995 budget of \$960,459 was adopted. In Cooperative Program giving, \$277,458 is budgeted in anticipated giving from Montana's 125 churches and missions to state and Southern Baptist Convention missions

and ministry. The CP budget designates 22% to go to SBC causes, up 1% from 1994.

Re-elected to Montana Baptist leadership posts were Doug Hutcheson, president, pastor of Westside Church, Great Falls, and Sammie Daniels, vice president, pastor of Park City Church.

The fellowship's 1995 annual meeting will be Oct. 4-5 at Westside Church in Great Falls.

Baptist Record

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